GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4655
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2001
FUNDS FOR PHCS
DUKHA BHAGAT

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the huge funds are being allocated to Primary Health Centres, to provide basic medical facilities to the villagers but these funds are not utilized properly; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to improve the plight of the villagers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) : Government is aware of the deficiencies in the Primary Health Centres in States/UTs.While public health is primarily a state subject in terms of implementation and management, the Central Government is providing technical and financial assistance in all critical areas which affect the programme. States are regularly being advised to take appropriate steps on priority, to address the unmet need. Government have initiated innumerable innovative interventions to expand outreach and coverage so that even the remote areas are adequately served.

Under the State Health Systems Project, Community Health Centres and District Hospitals are being upgraded and better equipped to provide quality health services to people in rural and backward areas.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, specific provisioning has been made towards repairs and renovation of the public health infra-structure, purchasing of drugs and essential consumables, and contingencies.

Area Development Projects are also being implemented with financial assistance from external agencies for strengthening of health and family welfare infrastructure. One of the main activities of Area Projects includes construction of buildings for sub-centres, primary health centres and community health.

Under the Reproductive & Child Health Programme, the following steps are being taken to strengthen the primary health care institutions.

1. Major Civil Works for repair/construction of OT/Labour Room.

2. Provision of equipments/medicine for emergency, obstetrics at selected first referral units.

3. Financial assistance for contracts/appointments/hiring of Anaesthetists/Gynaecologists etc. wherever not available.

Efforts are also being made to increase the outreach of health care services through Swasthya Melas and Reproductive and Child Health camps etc.